

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (canceled).

Claim 2 (currently amended): ~~Sleeper~~ The double-cross sleeper as claimed in claim ~~±~~ 27, wherein ~~the~~ at least one mounting ~~device~~ ~~(26)~~ devices is eccentrically disposed on the respective first or second longitudinal member ~~(5)~~ within ~~a sleeper~~ the first longitudinal width (14b) or the second longitudinal width, respectively.

Claim 3 (currently amended): ~~Sleeper~~ The double-cross sleeper as claimed in claim ~~±~~ 27, wherein the first mounting device and the fourth mounting device ~~at least two mounting devices (26)~~ are offset from one another parallel with ~~the extension of~~ the sleeper longitudinal axis ~~(6)~~.

Claim 4 (currently amended): ~~Sleeper~~ The double-cross sleeper as claimed in claim \pm 27, wherein the first and second bearings ~~(9)~~ extend on the first and third longitudinal projections and on longitudinal members the second and fourth longitudinal projections, respectively ~~(5) along a rail extension, in particular along a longitudinal mid-axis (8) of the longitudinal member (5),~~ wherein the first mounting device and at least one the fourth mounting device ~~(26) each is~~ are disposed adjacent to the first bearing ~~(9)~~ on oppositely lying sides ~~(31, 32)~~ of the first longitudinal member.

Claim 5 (canceled).

Claim 6 (currently amended): ~~Sleeper~~ The double-cross sleeper as claimed in claim \pm 27, wherein the mounting devices ~~(26)~~ can be ~~activated or deactivated as and when necessary, in particular transferred into by receiving a closure element a passive position or mounting position in order to mount the rail fixing elements~~ ~~(28)~~.

Claim 7 (currently amended): ~~Sleeper~~ The double-cross sleeper as claimed in claim \pm 27, wherein ~~the each~~ mounting devices ~~(26)~~

~~are each provided in the form of an~~ device comprises a respective
~~anchoring orifice (40) and optionally a mounting channel (41) or a~~
~~portion of a mounting channel (41).~~

Claim 8 (currently amended): ~~Sleeper~~ The double-cross sleeper
as claimed in claim 7, wherein the anchoring orifice ~~(40)~~ of each
mounting device is ~~designed so that it can be closed~~ closable by
~~means of a~~ respective closure element ~~(66)~~ in order to deactivate
the mounting devices ~~(26)~~, in particular a plug ~~(68)~~ of plastic
device.

Claim 9 (canceled).

Claim 10 (currently amended): ~~Sleeper~~ The double-cross
sleeper as claimed in claim 9 27, wherein ~~on both sides (31, 32)~~
~~adjacent to the longitudinal mid-axis (8) of the longitudinal~~
~~member (5)~~, the first and fourth mounting devices ~~(26)~~ with the
associated rail fixing elements ~~(28)~~ are spaced apart from the
sleeper longitudinal axis ~~(6)~~ in opposite directions from one
another by a distance ~~(29)~~.

Claim 11 (currently amended): ~~Sleeper~~ The double-cross

sleeper as claimed in claim ~~12~~ 27, wherein the first and sixth mounting devices ~~(26)~~ with the associated rail fixing elements ~~(28)~~ are disposed diagonally opposite one another.

Claim 12 (canceled).

Claim 13 (currently amended): ~~Sleeper~~ The double-cross sleeper as claimed in claim ~~12~~ 27, wherein ~~on the side (31, 32) of the longitudinal member (5) with a rail fixing element (28) secured to only one mounting device (26), the~~ second mounting device ~~(26)~~ is disposed between the two first and third mounting devices ~~(26) of the oppositely lying side (31, 32) of the longitudinal member (5), in particular in the region of the sleeper longitudinal axis (6).~~

Claim 14 (currently amended): ~~Sleeper~~ The double-cross sleeper as claimed in claim ~~12~~ 27, wherein ~~on the side (31, 32) of the longitudinal member (5) with a rail fixing element (28) each fixed to the two mounting devices (26), these~~ the first and fourth mounting devices ~~(26)~~ are spaced apart from the sleeper longitudinal axis ~~(6)~~ in opposite directions respectively by an identical or different distance ~~(29)~~.

Claims 15-17 (canceled).

Claim 18 (currently amended): ~~Sleeper~~ The double-cross sleeper as claimed in claim ~~±~~ 4, wherein ~~a~~ the first longitudinal projection contains the first end region;

wherein the second longitudinal projection contains the third end region;

wherein the first and third stepped designs comprise a respective first and second step, respectively; ~~(47a, 47b)~~ is formed by the stepped or recessed end regions ~~(45a, 45b)~~ on the longitudinal projections, and

wherein the first and second steps ~~(47a, 47b)~~ each have comprise a first shoulder surface ~~(54)~~ and a second shoulder surface, respectively; and

wherein the first and second shoulder surfaces are each remote from the ~~sleeper~~ first bottom face~~-(2)~~.

Claim 19 (currently amended): ~~Sleeper~~ The double-cross sleeper as claimed in claim ~~±~~ 18, wherein the first longitudinal member further comprises a support surface on the first top face;

and

wherein the first shoulder surface (54) is spaced apart from ~~a~~
the support surface (33) ~~on the top face of the longitudinal member~~
~~(5)~~ by a height (50) in the direction of the ~~sleeper~~ first bottom
face (2).

Claim 20 (currently amended): ~~Sleeper~~ The double-cross
sleeper as claimed in claim ~~±~~ 18, wherein the first shoulder
surface (54) ~~of the step (47a, 47b)~~ is essentially of a rectangular
or elliptical shape.

Claim 21 (currently amended): ~~Sleeper~~ The double-cross
sleeper as claimed in claim ~~±~~ 18, wherein the first and second
steps have a first step width (52) ~~of the steps (47a, 47b)~~ and a
second step width, respectively;

wherein the first bearing has a bearing width; and

wherein said first step width and said second step width each
corresponds correspond to at least a the bearing width (35) ~~for the~~
~~rail elements (10) on the bearing (9).~~

Claim 22 (currently amended): ~~Sleeper~~ The double-cross sleeper as claimed in claim ~~±~~ 4, wherein the first and fourth mounting devices comprise a first mounting channels (41) channel and a second mounting channel, respectively of the mounting devices (26);

wherein the first longitudinal member further comprises a support surface on the first top face; and

wherein the first and second mounting channels are each provided in the form of a first and second recess, respectively, in the support surface (33) of the longitudinal member (5).

Claim 23 (currently amended): ~~Sleeper~~ The double-cross sleeper as claimed in claim 22, wherein the first and second mounting channels (41) extend continuously or are split into part sections across the support surface (33), in particular across a bearing length (37) adjacent to the corresponding bearing (9), and are parallel with the rail extension or first the longitudinal mid-axis (8) of the longitudinal member (5).

Claim 24 (currently amended): ~~Sleeper~~ The double-cross sleeper as claimed in claim 22, wherein the first and second

mounting channels ~~(41)~~ of the mounting devices ~~(26)~~ project beyond the cross member ~~(4)~~ by means of a protuberance ~~(44)~~.

Claim 25 (currently amended): ~~Sleeper~~ The double-cross sleeper as claimed in claim ~~±~~ 22, wherein a support width of the first longitudinal member ~~(5)~~ in the region of the support surface ~~(33)~~ corresponds to at least a channel distance ~~(53)~~ between the first and second mounting channels ~~(41)~~ at the oppositely lying sides ~~(31, 32)~~.

Claim 26 (currently amended): ~~Sleeper~~ The double-cross sleeper as claimed in claim ~~±~~ 27, wherein the first stepped design comprises a first step edge;

wherein the third stepped design comprises a second step edge;
and

wherein the first bearing ~~(9)~~ extends continuously on the respective first longitudinal member ~~(5)~~ between the first and second step edges ~~(49)~~ formed in the stepped region of the longitudinal member ~~(5)~~.

Claim 27 (new): A double-cross sleeper for a gravel-mounted structure on railways, the double-cross sleeper comprising:

(a) a cross member extending along a sleeper longitudinal axis, said cross member comprising first and second cross member side faces;

(b) a first longitudinal member extending along a first longitudinal mid-axis at a right angle to the sleeper longitudinal axis, said first longitudinal member comprising a first top face, a first bearing on the first top face, first, second and third mounting devices on a first side of the first longitudinal mid-axis, fourth, fifth and sixth mounting devices along a second side of the first longitudinal mid-axis, a first bottom face, a first stepped design in the direction of the first bottom face at the first topped face at a first end region, a third stepped design in the direction of the first bottom face at the first topped face at a third end region, and first and third longitudinal projections extending out along the first longitudinal mid-axis beyond the first and second cross member side faces respectively in a first intersecting region between the first longitudinal member and the cross member;

(c) a second longitudinal member extending along a second longitudinal mid-axis at a right angle to the sleeper longitudinal

axis, said second longitudinal member comprising a second top face, a second bearing on the second top face, seventh, eighth and ninth mounting devices on a first side of the second longitudinal mid-axis, tenth, eleventh and twelfth mounting devices along a second side of the second longitudinal mid-axis, a second bottom face, a second stepped design in the direction of the second bottom face at the second topped face at a second end region, a fourth stepped design in the direction of the second bottom face at the second topped face at a fourth end region, and second and fourth longitudinal projections extending out along the second longitudinal mid-axis beyond the first and second cross member side faces respectively in a second intersecting region between the second longitudinal member and the cross member; and

(d) first and second sleeper end regions along the sleeper longitudinal axis lateral to the first and second longitudinal members respectively, said first sleeper end region comprising a first extension transverse to the first longitudinal member, said second sleeper end region comprising a second extension transverse to the second longitudinal member;

wherein said first end region and said third end region lie opposite to each other across the sleeper longitudinal axis;

wherein said second end region and said fourth end region lie opposite to each other across the sleeper longitudinal axis;

wherein each mounting device is for an associated rail fixing element, the rail fixing elements associated with the first, second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth mounting devices retaining a first rail element on the first longitudinal member, the rail fixing elements associated with the seventh, eighth, ninth, tenth, eleventh and twelfth mounting devices retaining a second rail element on the second longitudinal member;

wherein the respective rail element can be mounted on the first and second longitudinal members, respectively, by the first and second bearing, respectively, to extend above the first and second longitudinal members, respectively;

wherein at least one of the mounting devices is disposed transversely offset with respect to the sleeper longitudinal axis;

wherein the first longitudinal member has a first width;

wherein the second longitudinal member has a second width;

wherein the first bearing has a first bearing length;

wherein the second bearing has a second bearing length; and

wherein at least one of the first bearing length and the second bearing length is at least $2/3$ of the first longitudinal member width or the second longitudinal member width, respectively.